Television serials and documentaries

4429. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of T.V. serials and documentaries submitted by private producers during the period 1991—94

(b) the number of the serials which have been approved;

(c) the number of those which have been rejected; and

(d) the number of approved T.V. serials/documentaries screened by the Doordarshan during this period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Social and cultural heritage of the country

4430. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA; Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the changing order of the electronic media all over the world and more importantly in developing countries has posed a serious threat to the cultural and social heritage, if so what steps Government are taking to protect the social and clutural heritage of our country through Doordarshan; and

(b) what steps are being taken to develop value oriented cultural ethos and to make room for rural artists in the electronic media?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Doordarshan is endeavouring on a continuing basis to optimally utilise the available technology to increase the number of its channels in order to provide wholesome programming at the national and regional level that caters to the widest cross secion of its viewers.

(b) All India Radio and Doordarshan shall continue to strive *to* inform, educate land entertain the people through their programmes and provide the necessary platform to the abundant talent, including rural artistes available within the country.

Production of serial 'Tansen'

4431. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a proposal for production of a serial "Tansen" written by an eminent music director;

(b) if so, when was the project submitted;

(d) details regarding the present status and reasons for delay;

(d) whether Government have any plan for encouraging production of serials to familiarize the Indian viewers with rich cultural heritage of India; and

(e) if so,, the number of such serials produced and released on DD Network during the last two years and proposed to be released during 1995-96.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO:: (a) and (b) The proposal was submitted) to Doordarshan in October, 1990 under the New Sponsorship Scheme.

(c) The proposal was not selected by the Selection Committee comprising non-officials.

•(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The details are enclosed in the Statement.